

PURPOSE

General regulatory and procedural guidance for City of Vernon representatives who respond to sewage, hazardous material, or stormwater pollutant spill/release incident.

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENTS

Community Services and Water Fire Health & Environmental Control Police

LEGAL

This document outlines emergency spill/release response procedures as part of the overall City of Vernon Emergency Response Plan. The procedures have been prepared based on Vernon City Code, California Health & Safety Code, California Water Code, Code of Federal Regulations, California Code of Regulations, Waste Discharge Permit (Sanitary Sewer Overflow), interdepartmental memorandums, and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System. If the spill/release response is a result of a primary emergency incident (i.e. structure/vehicle fire, vehicle collision, earthquake, etc.) this policy shall not interfere with pre-established response procedures that may be required to mitigate the primary emergency.

24-HOUR EMERGENCY REPORTING HOTLINE

The general public and outside agencies are to be directed to report spills/releases to the Fire and Police Department dispatch number:

(323) 583-4821

Spill/release reports that are received from the public or outside agencies, through the primary Vernon City Hall telephone number of (323) 583-8811, are to be routed to dispatch extension 351/352.

Natural gas leaks/releases from the City's natural gas system are to be reported to the City of Vernon Control Center:

(323) 826-3609

FIRST RESPONSE

Safety of the employees and public shall be the primary objective. Upon arrival, first responders shall initiate the incident command system and conduct the following actions, as needed:

Fire Department shall respond according to pre-established response criteria such as, but not limited to, the following Standard Operating Procedures;

- 1. 2.14- Tactical Guidelines, Ammonia System Emergencies
- 2. 2.18- Tactical Guidelines, Diesel Spill Disposal
- 3. 2.29- Emergency Release Follow-up Notice
- 4. 6.02- Hazardous Materials Policies and Procedures
- 5. 6.05- Hazardous Materials Decontamination Procedures
- 6. 6.06- Hazardous Materials Roles and Responsibilities

All other departments should exercise the following as needed:

- A. Secure the safety for yourself, first responders, and the public.
- B. The incident commander shall request the assistance of other departments as needed. A unified command should be initiated upon arrival of the other department representatives.
- C. If possible, efforts should be directed to safely contain the spill or chemical release.
- D. If spill or chemical release cannot be safely contained, City of Vernon Fire Department assistance shall be requested to assume responsibility for containment.
- E. Once the spill or released material is contained, the unified command should determine if the responsible party is capable of recovering the spilled material safely without increasing the risk to public health or the environment. If the responsible party is capable of safely recovering the spill without increasing the risk to public health or the environment the health department shall issue the responsible party a written enforcement order.

ENFORCEMENT ORDERS

If possible, the Health Officer shall order responsible person to abate the spill or discharge. (VCC Sec. 21.6.4) (CHSC Sec. 5412)

The Director of Community Services and Water may revoke the certificate of occupancy of any person and to the extent necessary, may terminate water and power service to any occupancy in order to abate a violation. (VCC Sec. 21.6.1)

REQUIRED VERBAL NOTIFICATIONS

See Table 1 for spill/release notification criteria.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

The Health Officer shall immediately determine whether notification of the public is required to safeguard public health and safety. If so, the Health Officer shall immediately notify the public of the discharge by posting notices or other appropriate means. The notification shall describe measures to be taken by the public to protect the public health. (Section 13271(a)(3) of the California Water Code)

SPILL/RELEASE WTITTEN FOLLOW-UP REPORT NOTIFICATIONS

A detailed written follow-up report of a hazardous materials spill/release incident shall be required from the responsible person to submit within 5 days, to all of the following agencies who were initially notified:

- City of Vernon Health & Environmental Control Department
- California Emergency Management Agency (CalEMA)
- National Response Center
- Regional Water Quality Control Board

Written notification reporting procedures from the City of Vernon to the State Water Board for spill/releases involving the overflow of sewage from a Vernon sewer line are detailed in City of Vernon Sanitary Sewer Overflow Response Plan.

All significant releases involving discharge of pollutants onto the storm drain system shall require the completion and submission of a Spill Report to the Department of Community Services and Water. In the event that more than one department has responded to the spill/release incident, refer to the Multi-Departmental Spill Response Reporting Policy. The reporting department shall determine and indicate on the report if the significant release involves a private or public sewer line discharge onto the storm drain system. The reporting department shall submit Spill Reports involving significant releases from private or public sewer line discharges as soon as possible but no later than two (2) business days after being aware of the discharge. The reporting department shall also determine and indicate on the Spill Report if the significant release was one of the following types:

- A significant release that entered a City or County owned storm water catch basin/drain (specify on the Spill Report the amount released and amount contained), or
- 2. A significant release with the potential to enter a City or County owned storm water catch basin/drain without any intervention (Absorbents used for clean up operation only is not considered intervention.), or
- 3. A significant release that did not enter, or have the potential to enter, a City or County owned storm water catch basin/drain.

CLEANUP EXPENSE RECOVERY

The City shall invoice the person or persons causing or contributing to excessive sewer, sewerage, or storm drain maintenance expenses or reconstruction costs including administrative costs attributable to any illicit discharge. (VCC Sec. 21.6.3)

DEFINITIONS

<u>Significant Release</u>- Any unauthorized spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, discharging, injecting, escaping, leaching, dumping, or disposing of pollutants onto the storm drain system.

Significant release does not include discharges that are exempted under a NPDES permit; or a release(not entering, or having the potential to enter, a City or County storm water catch basin/drain) involving a minor volume that, if left alone, would not be a public nuisance nor create a potential hazard to human health, safety, property, or the environment.

(Examples of exempted discharges include, but are not limited to, fire sprinkler flushing, sidewalk rinsing, and atmospheric condensate from cooling systems.)

<u>Storm Drain System</u>- Means a conveyance or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, alleys, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, manmade channels, or storm drains) that is designed or used for collecting or conveying storm water.

<u>Stormwater Pollutant</u>- Means but is not limited to sewage, garbage, debris, lawn clippings, leaves, fecal waste, biological waste, sediment, sludge, manure, fertilizers, pesticides, oil, grease, gasoline, coolant, paints, solvents, cleaners, batteries and any fluid or solid containing toxic or non-toxic chemicals or metals.

REFERENCES

Vernon City Code
California Code of Regulations
California Health and Safety Code
NPDES Permit No. CAS004001
City of Vernon Sanitary Sewer Overflow Response Plan
40 Code of Federal Regulations

Table 1. - Spill Notification Criteria

	Sewage			Hazardous/Non-Haz Materials			Call time	Phone #	Applicable Law/Ref
	City Prop.	L.A. County/CalTra ns Prop.	L.A. River	City Prop.	L.A. County/CalTran s	L.A. River			
Cal EMA	n/a	n/a	>1000 gal.	HM only -any amount	HM only- any amount	HM only- any amount	ASAP	(800) 852-7550 (916) 845-8911	CWC Secs.13271, 13172
Vernon Water Supervisor	any amount	any amount	Any amount	n/a	n/a	n/a	3 days	(323) 583-8811 (805) 218-3733	WDR (SSO)
Vernon Control Center	during off hours	during off hours	during off hours	n/a	natural gas Leak only	n/a	ASAP	(323) 826-3609	June 2, 2008 Light and Power Memo
Vernon Health	any amount	any amount	any amount	any amount	any amount	any amount	ASAP	(323) 583-8811	CHSC Sections 5411.5, 25507
County DPW	n/a	any amount	any amount		any amount	any amount	ASAP	(626) 458-4357 (562) 861-0316	
County Health	any amount likely to enter River	any amount likely to enter River	any amount	any amount likely to enter River	any amount likely to enter River	any amount	15 min.	(626) 430-5420 (213) 974-1234	CHSC Sections 5411.5,
County H.M.	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	HM only- any amount	HM only- any amount	ASAP	(323) 890-4045 (323) 881-2455	CHSC Section 25507
LARWQCB	any amount	any amount	any amount			any amount	24 hours	(213) 576-6657 (213) 305-2284	40 CFR, WDR (SSO)
Long Beach Health	n/a	n/a	>500 gal	discretio nary	discretionary	discretionary	ASAP	(562) 254-9730	CHSC Sections 5411.5, 25507
Sanitation District	If from County line	If from County line	If from County line	n/a	If HM discharged to sewer	n/a	ASAP	(562) 699-7422 (562) 437-6520	WDR (SSO)
SCAQMD	n/a	n/a	n/a	discretio nary	discretionary	discretionary	ASAP	(800) 396-2000	
National Response Center	n/a ifornia Water O	n/a	n/a	RQ	RQ	RQ	ASAP	(800) 424-8802 ent Agency (formerly OES	40 CFR Secs. 302.5, 110, 119

CWC- California Water Code WDR (SSO)- Waste Discharge Permit for Sanitary Sewer Overflows
CHSC- California Health & Safety Code
CFR- Code of Federal Regulations

HM- hazardous materials

LARWQCB- Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

CalEMA- California Emergency Management Agency (formerly OES)

RQ- Reportable Quantity

SCAQMD- South Coast Air Quality Management District